

Serial No. 09/605,688

Reply to Office Action of January 3, 2003

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) An information service system including a plurality of user terminals and a center capable of data communication with said user terminals,

said center comprising:

database construction means for adding information based on terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals to an information database;

retrieval means for retrieving information according to the terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals based on the information database constructed by said database construction means; and

distribution means for distributing the information retrieved by said retrieval means as distributed information,

said user terminals comprising:

input means for inputting information from a user;

situation detecting means for detecting information on the situation of said user;

terminal-side information generation means for generating said terminal-side information including at least information input with said input means and the situation information detected by said situation detecting means;

storage and transmission means for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generation means in memory means and for transmitting it to said center; and

process execution means for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center.

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2. (Original) An information service system according to claim 1, wherein:

said retrieval means of said center retrieves according to said request for retrieval using information included in said terminal-side information, when a request for retrieval is included in said terminal-side information; and

said process execution means of said user terminal executes a notification process for notifying of the information according to said request distributed by the center as distributed information.

3. (Currently Amended) An information service system according to claim 2, wherein:

said information on the situation of said user detected by said situation detecting means includes data regarding an environment of said user;

said retrieval means of said center retrieves information relevant to said request for retrieval by inferring it from information included in said terminal-side information; and

said information retrieved by said retrieval means includes data inferred by said retrieval means from a plurality of information included in said terminal-side information that includes data regarding the environment of said user.

4. (Original) An information service system according to claim 1, wherein said database construction means adds information obtained by editing said terminal-side information to said information database as information based on said terminal-side information.

5. (Currently Amended) An information service system according to claim 1, wherein said

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terminal-side information comprises information associated with predetermined entries for inferring information relevant to said request for retrieval.

6. (Original) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein said terminal-side information is stored, transmitted and received in profiles in which information associated with particular entries among said predetermined entries is described.

7. (Original) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein said terminal-side information generation means of said user terminal generates said terminal-side information by inferring unknown information associated with entries of said terminal-side information based on past terminal-side information stored in memory means.

8. (Original) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein:
said retrieval means of said center retrieves unknown information associated with entries of said transmitted terminal-side information; and

said process execution means of said user terminal executes an information update process for adding information which is said unknown information retrieved by said retrieval means and which is distributed by said center as distributed information to terminal-side information stored in said memory means.

9. (Original) An information service system according to claim 8, wherein said retrieval means of said center selects past terminal-side information stored in said information database which is similar to said transmitted terminal-side information and retrieves unknown pieces of

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information in said transmitted terminal-side information based on said selected terminal-side information.

10. (Original) An information service system according to claim 9, wherein said retrieval means of said center selects past terminal-side information stored in said information database which is similar to said transmitted terminal-side information based on the degree of similarity calculated on the basis of said profiles.

11. (Original) An information service system according to claim 5, wherein said user terminals further comprising:

priority setting means for setting priorities for predetermined entries of said terminal-side information based on information input with said input means; and

query means for prompting a user to input information associated with an entry having a relatively high priority set by said priority setting means when said information does not satisfy predetermined conditions.

12. (Original) An information service system according to claim 1, wherein:

said user terminal is used on board a vehicle;

said retrieval means of said center retrieves information on the scenery around the location of said vehicle when said transmitted terminal-side information includes information of the location of said vehicle;

said distribution means distributes said scenery information to said user terminal as distributed information; and

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said process execution means of said user terminal executes a structure inference process for inferring structures around the vehicle based on said scenery information as said distributed information.

13. (Original) An information service system according to claim 12, wherein said scenery information is information transmitted by each of said user terminals to said center as image information and edited at said center.

14. (Original) An information service system including a plurality of user terminals and a center capable of data communication with said user terminals,

said center comprising:

database construction means for adding information based on terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminal to an information database;

retrieval means for retrieving information according to the terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals based on the information database constructed by said database construction means; and

distribution means for distributing the information retrieved by said retrieval means as distributed information.

15. (Original) An information service system including a plurality of user terminals and a center capable of data communication with said user terminals,

said user terminals comprising:

input means for inputting information from a user;

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situation detecting means for detecting information on the situation of said user;

terminal-side information generation means for generating said terminal-side information including at least information input with said input means and the situation information detected by said situation detecting means;

storage and transmission means for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generation means in memory means and for transmitting it to said center; and

process execution means for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center.

16. (Currently Amended) An information service system according to claim 15, wherein said terminal-side information comprises information associated with predetermined entries for inferring information relevant to said request for retrieval.

17. (Original) An information service system according to claim 16, wherein said terminal-side information is stored, transmitted and received in profiles in which information associated with particular entries among said predetermined entries is described.

18. (Original) An information service system according to claim 16, wherein said terminal-side information generation means of said user terminal generates said terminal-side information by inferring unknown information associated with entries of said terminal-side information based on past terminal-side information stored in memory means.

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19 (Original) An information service system according to claim 16, wherein said user terminal further comprising:

priority setting means for setting priorities for predetermined entries of said terminal-side information based on information input with said input means; and

query means for prompting a user to input information associated with an entry having a relatively high priority set by said priority setting means when said information does not satisfy predetermined conditions.

20 (Currently Amended) An information service system including a plurality of user terminals and a center capable of data communication with said user terminals,

said center comprising:

a database constructor for adding information based on terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals to an information database;

a retriever connected to said database constructor, for retrieving information according to the terminal-side information transmitted by said user terminals based on the information database constructed by said database ~~constructor~~ constructor; and

a distributor connected to the retriever, for distributing the information retrieved by said retriever as distributed information,

said user terminals comprising:

an input unit for inputting information from a user;

a situation detector for detecting information on the situation of said user;

a terminal-side information generator connected to said input unit and said situation detector, for generating said terminal-side information including at least information

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input with said input unit and the situation information detected by said situation detector;

a storage unit for storing the terminal-side information generated by said terminal-side information generator in a memory;

a transmitter for transmitting said terminal-side information in said storage unit to said center; and

a process executer for executing a predetermined process based on the distributed information distributed by said center.

21. (New) An information service system according to claim 1, wherein said information on the situation of said user detected by said situation detecting means includes data regarding an environment of said user.